

**Four County Library System
Youth Services Meeting
10 May 2019 – Worcester-Schenevus Library**

Libraries represented: ONA, BCPL, EN, DI, FR, WO, NO
Via GoToMeeting: CV, SID, AF, SNB, SM, DE, WA, CO

Quick things

- YSS Empowerment, Advocacy & Leadership Academy
This is a great opportunity to expand your professional skills and interact with librarians from across the state over several training sessions. For more information, visit https://www.nyla.org/max/4DCGI/cms/review.html?Action=CMS_Document&DocID=2484&MenuKey=career
There is also a scholarship for the tuition of this program (deadline July 1), and information can be found here: https://www.nyla.org/max/4DCGI/cms/review.html?Action=CMS_Document&DocID=921&MenuKey=yss

- Fidget's Fun Pack – Sarah was asked by this presenter to share information about her program and materials that can be purchased to implement the program with your own staff and volunteers: <https://www.jodiefitz.com/fidgets-fun-pack/>

- Thorndike Large Print – A representative from Thorndike sent some information packets about using large print with youth. Because of the format, large print can be helpful to some students with learning disabilities. If you would like to receive a packet, please email Sarah (sreid@4cls.org), and she will send one to you through the delivery.

- LEGO Braille Bricks – LEGO will be releasing a set of Braille bricks to encourage young people who are visually impaired to be excited about learning Braille. Here are a couple of articles about it:
 - o <https://www.lego.com/en-us/aboutus/news-room/2019/april/lego-braille-bricks>
 - o <https://www.npr.org/2019/05/04/717570014/to-help-children-learn-braille-lego-will-introduce-bricks-designed-for-the-blind>

- Christa's Lost Lessons – Dannielle (from 4CLS Acquisitions) passed along information about lessons created by Christa McAuliffe, the teacher-astronaut who was killed in the Challenger accident. These lessons have been made available through the Challenger Center, and there are videos and lesson plans available on their website: https://www.challenger.org/challenger_lessons/christas-lost-lessons/ These lessons and activities could be useful to connect with this summer's SRP theme.

myON

- myON, an ebooks platform with books for children, has been made available to NYS students by the State Library. It is available to be used now through September 30.
- The setup is pretty much the same as last year, but this year there is only one login for students throughout the whole state. (Children who have personalized logins from school can continue to use those logins.)
- There are around 6300 books in the collection, ranging from early readers to middle grade titles. Patrons can choose to listen to the book being read to them, or they can just go through the book at their own pace.
- Patrons can use the myON website, or they can use the free myON app. The app allows users to download books to their tablets for offline reading—up to 20 books at a time.
- The State Library has created handouts for promotion—both full-page instructions and smaller bookmarks with login information. Also there are social media blurbs and a button that you can include on your website. These materials can be downloaded and printed out from this site:

<https://renaissancemediasassets.com/portals/bfhxjvm4/NYPLSSummer>

Excellence in Early Learning Digital Media Award

- This is an award administered by the Association for Library Service to Children, and 2019 was the first year that it was awarded.
- These would be good apps to load onto tablets that are used by young patrons at the library, as well as recommending to parents.
- PBS Play and Learn Science – Award winner! Free!
- Lexi’s World – Honor Recipient. Free, but I think it’s only for a limited time, so if you want to use it, you might want to download it soon.
- Coral Reef by Tinybop – Honor Recipient. \$2.99.

Preschool Discovery Lab (NYLA YSS - Pied Piper Award)

- This is a great program for preschoolers that can be replicated in your library! And it could be scaled down or scaled up.
- All of the resources and handouts and ideas are included on a Google Drive folder that the program creator made available for people to take a look at:
<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/19mkXqCCDnQSDAnwy8zO1QXPAV0pfJPXK>
- This program is being publicized because the creator won the Pied Piper Award from NYLA’s Youth Services Section. This is something that you can apply for, too! If you have a great program that you’ve done this year, you can submit it to be considered for the prize. The prize isn’t huge, but it’s great to get your name and your library out there with innovative programming! The information is on the website—the deadline is December 1.
https://www.nyla.org/max/4DCGI/cms/review.html?Action=CMS_Document&DocID=309&MenuKey=yss

Coretta Scott King 50th Anniversary

- This year is the 50th anniversary of the Coretta Scott King Award. This is given to African-American authors and illustrators who produce books for youth that represent the African-American experience.
- There's lots of material available on the website to help you with programming: <http://www.ala.org/rt/emiert/cskbookawards/csk50/2019-CSK-Programs>
- It would be great to do displays to highlight the award!

Sharing around the table

- Mary from the Cannon Free Library (DI) shared that her library will be receiving a Literary Landmark this summer. In the book *My Side of the Mountain* by Jean Craighead George, the main character visits the library. There will be programs and activities leading up to the dedication of the plaque, which will take place on July 2, George's 100th birthday. (More information about Literary Landmarks can be found here: http://www.ala.org/united/products_services/literarylandmarks)
- Kathryn from the Huntington Memorial Library (ONA) told about the huge project that she and her co-workers undertook when the library was closed for construction. They rearranged their picture book collection into genres (instead of shelving only by author), and they call it Storybook Junction! Kathryn said that it was a huge amount of work, but she's pleased with the result. She also generously offered for other libraries to use the term Storybook Junction, if they decide to do the shelving by genres. (If your library is interested in doing something similar, there's some information on the 4CLS Intranet: <http://libraries.4cls.org/4cls/wp-content/uploads/2011/07/Juvenile-genres.pdf>)
- Mindy from the Worcester-Schenevus Library shared that she is also using the genre system for her paperback picture books. She is getting a good response from some patrons by offering an opportunity for them to meet to play Magic: The Gathering. She had a successful Star Wars "May the Fourth" event, and she is looking to start a teen newspaper.
- We had a conversation about how to get kids—especially teens—into the library. Here are a few ideas that were offered:
 - o Connect with the school and/or the local PTA.
 - o Focus on pop culture.
 - o Use outdoor signage to let people know of upcoming events.
 - o Give community service hours to teens, even during certain craft programs, like "Crafts for a Cause."
 - o Have a volunteer "job fair."
 - o Use social media on a consistent basis, posting regularly. Instagram is used by many teens.

Next meeting – DATE CHANGE!

- A regional meeting was scheduled for the date that our meeting was supposed to be held. Sarah will send out a survey for picking a new date.

SRP posters are available! Let Sarah know (sreid@4cls.org) if you would like a set.